

MISSOURI COURTS

Directions: Read these questions before you watch the video, *Missouri Courts*. The answers to the questions are in the video. You may want to take notes.

1. Who do the courts belong to?
2. What is the role of the judicial branch in Missouri government?
3. What is the first level of courts where most cases originate?
4. Give some examples of the kinds of cases at the trial/circuit court level.
5. What is the difference between a criminal and a civil case?
6. Give examples of who the parties may be in each kind of case.
7. What do each of these people do in the court?
 - a. Lawyers
 - b. Witnesses
 - c. Court reporter
 - d. Judge
 - e. Jury

Bonus: How old must you be to be a juror?
Who decides a case if there is no jury?



8. How does a case come before an appellate court?
9. What is the role of an appellate court? What actions may it take?
10. Name one kind of case that the Supreme Court hears directly from a circuit court.
Bonus: What other types of cases skip the Court of Appeals and go directly to the Supreme Court?
Why might a case be "transferred" to the Supreme Court?
11. How are judges selected? What role does the governor have? What role does the voter have?
Bonus: Who are the seven judges of the Supreme Court of Missouri?
Who is the current Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Missouri?



Bonus questions: Answers to #7 are in the video. Answers to #10 appear in the Missouri Constitution, Article V, which is available on the General Assembly's website www.moga.mo.gov. Answers to #11 appear on the Supreme Court's webpage www.missourisupremecourt.org (or its formal address <http://www.courts.mo.gov/sup/index.nsf>).